



Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller

October 20, 2016

Houston County Deputy Clerk Took \$3,500 in Cash

An investigation by the Tennessee Comptroller's Office has found that a Houston County deputy clerk took at least \$3,553.15.

Investigators found the deputy clerk used at least two schemes to take cash from the clerk's office.

The deputy clerk admitted that she overcharged customers' fees and then kept the overcharged amounts for her personal use. She also admitted to deleting properly recorded transactions from the office's accounting system, and then taking the amounts of those transactions from the cash drawer for herself.



The deputy clerk has not been terminated by the county clerk.

In addition to the missing cash, investigators also noted several problems with the clerk's office operations. These included allowing multiple employees to use the same cash drawer, not depositing collections together, allowing an employee to use multiple computer logins, and failing to monitor software application logs.

The findings and recommendations within the investigative report have been reviewed with the district attorney general for the Twenty-Third Judicial District.

"This investigation points to the need for proper supervision and oversight," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "Employees who handle money must be monitored. The county clerk should review the office's software application logs to determine if inappropriate activity is occurring."

To view the investigation online, go to: <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/>.

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